



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE
MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000

5720
PERS 00J6/20210304
April 28, 2021

Ms. Pam Stranix
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee
120 Maryland Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ms. Stranix:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of April 19, 2021. You seek Navy Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) documentation pertaining to Rear Admiral Kenneth J. Braithwaite (Ret.) and Lieutenant Commander Latham Greene Saddler III. This command received your request on April 19, 2021. Your FOIA request number is 2021-005736 and FOIA correspondence file number is 20210304.

A releasable copy of responsive OMPF documentation pertaining to Rear Admiral Braithwaite is enclosed. The redacted portions of the provided documentation are exempt from disclosure under FOIA exemption 6 [5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)]. Release of such information would constitute clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of Rear Admiral Braithwaite and other identified individuals. Documentation pertaining to the Record of Emergency Data/Dependency Application, Life Insurance Election, and medical documentation contained in the OMPF is denied in full under FOIA exemption 6 with justification as noted above.

The portion of your request seeking OMPF documentation pertaining to Lieutenant Commander Saddler has been assigned to Naval Special Warfare Command for their direct reply to you since Lieutenant Commander Saddler is a Navy SEAL. A new FOIA request was created in FOIA Online under 2021-005737 in order to facilitate assignment to them. Naval Special Warfare Command has further assigned your request with their FOIA request number of 21-123. Their FOIA Office may be contacted by email at nsw-foia@socom.mil.

I am the official responsible for the partial denial of your request. You have the right to an appeal. Should you wish to submit an appeal, it must be received within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Please provide a letter requesting

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an appeal and include a copy of your initial request and a copy of this partial denial letter. You are encouraged (though not required) to provide an explanation why you believe the redactions were in error. Also, please provide a copy of your appeal letter to us at Bureau of Naval Personnel, PERS Code 00J6, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055.

There are two ways to file an appeal—through FOIAonline or by mail.

1. Through FOIAonline. This will work only if you set up an account on FOIAonline before you make the request that you would like to appeal. To set up an account, go to FOIAonline (this is a website that will appear as the top hit if you search the internet for "FOIAonline"), click "Create Account" (a link located within the blue banner at the top in the upper right corner), enter your data into the field that subsequently appears, and click "Save" (at the bottom left of the screen). With your account thereby created, you will have the power to file an appeal on FOIAonline to any request you file on FOIAonline thereafter. To do so, locate your request (enter a keyword or the request tracking number in the "Search for" field on the "Search" tab), click on it, then the "Create Appeal" tab in the left-hand column. Complete the subsequent field, click "Save," and FOIAonline will submit your appeal.

2. By mail. Address your appeal to:

The Judge Advocate General (Code 14)
1322 Patterson Avenue SE
Suite 3000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

[Note: the preceding address is the default address. Alternatively, it may be sent to the Department of the Navy General Counsel if appropriate (the Office of the General Counsel generally handles issues outside of those of the uniformed service). That address is as follows:

Department of the Navy
Office of the General Counsel
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 5A532
Washington, DC 20350-1000

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If you have any questions, please contact me at david.german@navy.mil or (901) 874-3165. You may also contact the DON FOIA Public Liaison, Christopher Julka, at christopher.a.julka@navy.mil, (703) 697-0031. In addition, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) provides a voluntary mediation process for resolving disputes between persons making FOIA requests and the Department of the Navy (DON). For more information, go to <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/contact-information>.

Sincerely,

David P. German

D. P. GERMAN
FOIA/PA Officer